

HOUSE BILL 1035

By Cobb C

AN ACT to name the newly constructed bridges spanning the Elk River on U.S. Highway 64 in Lincoln County in honor of the late Donny Ray Hudson.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those exemplary public servants who contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this honor than the late Donny Ray Hudson, who distinguished himself as one of Lincoln County's finest citizens during his nearly quarter of a century serving as County Road Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, first elected Lincoln County Road Superintendent in 1982, Mr. Hudson was one of the longest serving public servants in that important position in the history of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his retirement, Mr. Hudson had almost achieved his goal of having either blacktopped or chipped every single road in Lincoln County; and

WHEREAS, Donny Ray Hudson was a person of impeccable morals and irreproachable integrity, and he worked to establish a brighter future for his friends and neighbors in Flintville and Lincoln County as a devoted public servant and proficient civic leader who always gave unstintingly of himself; and

WHEREAS, as a private citizen, Mr. Hudson was a loyal friend whose compassion and generosity knew no bounds; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Commission has petitioned this body to name certain bridges on U. S. Highway 64 to honor his illustrious memory and to permanently commemorate Mr. Hudson's life of purpose and commitment; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly most heartily concurs with this excellent proposal;
now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, both spans of the newly constructed bridge spanning the Elk River on U.S. Highway 64 in Lincoln County are hereby designated the "Donny Ray Hudson Memorial Bridge" as a lasting tribute to an excellent public servant and even more accomplished human being.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating both the northern and southern span of the bridge described in Section 1 as the "Donny Ray Hudson Memorial Bridge".

SECTION 3. The erection of such directional signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall become operative only if the cost of the manufacture and installation of such signs is paid to the department of transportation from non-state funds within one (1) year of the effective date of this act. Such payment shall be made prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to the person or entity paying for such signs within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, an amount equal to the difference in such costs shall be remitted to the department in non-state funds within thirty (30) days of the sponsoring person or entity receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.